

OUTGOING MESSAGE

Approved For Release 2005/06/13 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100170006-4

FLD 25X1

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AGE COI ACP TOG TPE MRO DCI TRI

OF PAGES

SCM 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 25X1

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

25X1

CIA/DCI/WH/2WH 741002

SOURCE REF:

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ITEM NO. WH-

DATE 2 OCTOBER 1974

SUBJECT: SOVIET DIPLOMAT DISCUSSES IMPACT OF NBER ON EASTERN EUROPE

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A SOVIET DIPLOMAT IN BONN, A FORMER AIDE TO HGRONYKO, WAS TOLD A US OFFICIAL THAT THE US POSITION ON NBER IGNORES POLITICAL REALITIES IN CENTRAL EUROPE. HE SAID THAT SOVIET REDUCTIONS TO THE EXTENT DEMANDED BY THE WEST COULD LEAD TO FUTURE "PRAGUE SPRINGS" IN EASTERN EUROPE.

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THIS IS AN UNUSUALLY CANDID STATEMENT OF A GENUINE SOVIET CONCERN REGARDING FORCE REDUCTIONS.

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DATE:
ORIG: State Department review completed
UNIT:
EXT:

RELEASING OFFICER

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CLASSIFICATION

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CLASSIFICATION

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE-TIME GROUP

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TAKING THIS LINE WITH WESTERNERS IS ALSO, IN A SENSE, SELF-SERVING IN THAT IT JUSTIFIED SOVIET UNWILLINGNESS TO MAKE REDUCTIONS AS LARGE AS ^{THOSE} DESIRED BY THE WEST. IN THE SAME CONVERSATION THE SOVIET OFFICIAL ASKED WHETHER THE US WAS PREPARED TO DROP THE "COMMON CEILING APPROACH" UNDER WHICH SOVIET FORCE REDUCTIONS WOULD BE CONSIDERABLY LARGER THAN THOSE OF THE US.

(SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION: E EUR DIV AND NIO

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